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862.C2204

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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NOV 13 2001

In re Application of:)
TOSHIAKI KONDO)
No.: 09/836,251)
Filed: April 18, 2001)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD :

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Group Art Unit: 2621
November 7, 2001

Technology Center 2600

#4
R04
11-15-01

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of those documents is also enclosed.

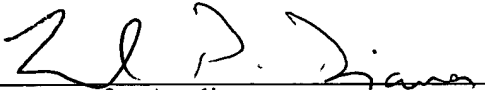
The concise explanation of relevance for each of the listed Japanese patent documents may be found in the corresponding English-language abstracts submitted herewith, and in the specification at pages 1 through 5, where these references are cited. Although Japanese patents numbers 2616552 and 2500439 have issued, their publication dates, rather than their issue dates, appear on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

It is noted that the article by Kass et al. was cited in the specification at pages 3, 5 and 6.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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